

1401 Main Street, Suite 900 Columbia, SC 29201

JOHN W. FLITTER DIRECTOR ELECTRIC & GAS REGULATION

April 19, 2013

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Chief Clerk & Administrator **Public Service Commission of South Carolina** 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re:

Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., GCRM-136

Docket No: 2006-401-G

Dear Ms. Boyd:

The Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") has reviewed the above referenced filing made by Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont" or "PNG") dated April 16, 2013. Piedmont has requested a benchmark cost of gas increase from the current \$3.00 per dekatherm to \$4.50 per dekatherm. Piedmont also requests these changes to be effective with the first billing cycle in May 2013.

ORS has no objection to Piedmont's request for approval of GCRM-136. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments in this matter.

Sincerely,

JWF/swh

cc: Dan F. Arnett, Chief of Staff, SC ORS

M. Anthony James, Deputy Director of Electric and Gas Regulation, SC ORS

Nanette S. Edwards, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services SC ORS

David Carpenter, VP-Planning and Regulatory Affairs, PNG

Pia Powers, Manager-Regulatory Affairs, PNG

James H. Jeffries IV, Esquire

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Dr. James Spearman, Executive Assistant, PSCSC